



**City of Scottsdale  
Human Services Commission  
Regular Meeting**

**SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 13, 2012**

**Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

**PRESENT:** Steven Rosenberg, Chair  
Raoul Zubia, Vice Chair  
Nicholas Thomas, Commissioner  
Enid Seiden, Commissioner  
Donald Nordlund, Commissioner

**ABSENT:** Marty Day, Commissioner  
Dustin Thomas, Commissioner

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jan Cameron, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Human Services  
Valerie Kime Trujillo, Human Services Manager; Paiute  
Cindy Ensign, Human Services Planner/Budget Specialist  
Hugh McGill, Human Services Manager; Youth & Family Services

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Commission members present as noted above.

**3. Approval of the Minutes - November 8, 2012**

**COMMISSIONER SEIDEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 8, 2012, HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY VICE-CHAIR ZUBIA, THE MOTION CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).**

#### **4. Target Population Presentation: Youth**

Valerie Kime Trujillo, Human Services Manager, mediated a panel discussion posing six questions to panel members. Panel members included:

Nikki Konz: Clinical Director; Teen Lifeline

Dr. Kellie M. Warren: Chief Executive Officer; Florence Crittenton of Arizona

Heather Walsh: Vice President of Program; Greater Phoenix Youth at Risk

Erin Cornelius: Development Director; Junior Achievement of Arizona, Inc.

Tom Shaughnessy: Senior VP of Operations; Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale

Laura Capello: Vice President of Marketing & Development; Big Brothers Big Sisters

- **From your perspective, describe the target population, "Youth" in Scottsdale?**

Panel members indicated that the target population includes youths in crisis; those wishing to access services who do not know how to access and/or utilize available resources; youths who are in need of life skill self-sufficiency education; teen parents; teens transitioning out of the foster care program; high school students in need of mentors as role models; youths in need of learning critical skills to become employed, successful adults; and youths in need of programs where they can feel a sense of belonging.

- **What are the most critical needs of the target population "Youth"?**

Panel members indicated that the most critical needs of the target population include a focus on life skills and healthy problem solving both at school and at home; affordable and stable housing; assistance in completing high school, obtaining a GED, or pursuing a college career; opportunities for career development and job readiness; independent living and life skills training; access to mental health and physical health services; access to advisors who can aid with finding essential resources; mentors; activities that will provide character building; assistance navigating the educational system; personal finance education; and healthy lifestyle education.

- **What services are available to meet those needs?**

Panel members indicated that services currently available to the target population include community based volunteer mentoring programs; after school programs; in-school programs that provide life and work skills education that are later implemented in an exercise during which they run their own town; workforce readiness programs that assist with obtaining internships and jobs; a student stock market challenge, which teaches about the world of finance; youth group homes with available mental health care; transitional housing for those ages 17 to 21; a program that fosters empowerment and leadership for girls; and a crisis hotline.

- **Are there any unmet needs of the target population "Youth"?**

Panel members indicated that unmet needs of the target population include a shortage of male volunteers to mentor boys; schools are cutting many outside programs in order to spend time focusing on raising standardized test scores; parent education on the needs of youths; transportation to after school programs; programs to assist with gaining critical skills so youth can compete in the growing competitive workforce; educational advocacy; safe and interesting recreational options for teens; programs to help teach youth to be their own advocate; and program funding.

- **Are there any current trends/issues in the target population "Youth" that we should be aware of?**

Panel members indicated that current trends/issues in the target population include bullying and cyberbullying; an increase in children entering the foster care system; an increased number of youth who are unmotivated and less active; a lack of vocational education opportunities; increase in youth with mental health and substance abuse issues; an increase in undocumented youth and youth being left behind when their parents are deported; an increased number of chronically unemployed adults because of a lack of skills; and increased instances of risky behavior.

- **Is there any last piece of information that you would like to share about "Youth" that has not been covered?**

Panel members indicated that in addition to the items discussed, it is important to remain focused and provide tools for youths who are feeling hopeless; to empower youths through resources and appropriate programs to guide them towards success; and work towards creating initiatives that will prevent gangs.

Commissioners were given the opportunity to make comments and ask questions. Discussion ensued regarding problems finding male mentors for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program; educational advocates; engaging parents and making them feel a part of their children's success; mental health and helping youths to handle stress and think independently; working with undocumented youths and their families; taking a holistic approach to youth health, nutrition, obesity, and substance abuse; and providing safe places for teens to hang out.

## **5. Staff and Commission Updates**

Jan Cameron, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Human Services, said that the holiday programs run through the Via Linda Senior Center, Granite Reef Senior Center, Vista del Camino, and Paiute Center are moving forward and noted that there are still opportunities to get involved for anyone who is interested.

She extended holiday wishes to the Commission.

## **6. Open call to the Public**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

**7.     Adjournment**

Being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.